



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
JUDICIAL BRANCH

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

---

231 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
(860) 757-2270 Fax (860) 757-2215

**Testimony of the Judicial Branch  
Housing Committee Public Hearing  
March 1, 2022**

**S.B. 200, An Act Concerning Summary Process Records**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch concerning **S.B. 200, *An Act Concerning Summary Process Records***.

The mission of the Connecticut Judicial Branch is to serve the interests of justice and the public by resolving matters brought before it in a fair, timely, efficient, and *open* manner. This proposal would make it more difficult for the public to access court records. In terms of implementation, we request an effective date of January 1, 2023, as significant changes would need to be made to the logic in the Civil/Family system, which would need to be defined, coded, and tested.

Regarding the specific language of the bill, it is not clear whether its provisions apply only to summary process cases filed after the October 1, 2022 effective date or whether it also applies to cases pending as of the effective date. Additionally, in line 16, should the language "not earlier" be "not later?" Finally, as drafted, the chief clerk of the Judicial District is responsible for ensuring proper removal of these cases from the Internet. Logistically, it would be nearly impossible for the clerks to check each individual case to ensure that a particular case is coded correctly. To implement this bill, the Judicial Branch will need to modify its Civil/Family system to remove summary process cases from the Internet according to the rules outlined in Section 1. For these reasons, the Committee may want to consider changing the language to say that the Judicial Branch

shall remove the summary process cases as specified in Section 1 from its website, as opposed to requiring the chief clerk of the Judicial District to ensure that the specified summary process cases are removed from the Judicial Branch's website.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.